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8 November 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting with AECAMHISTA 4

1. Upon the request of AECAMHISTA 4, the undersigned arranged to meet him in New York City at the Hotel Governor Clinton. The original request for the meeting came on the sterile telephone at 2130 hours, 29 October 1956, and the call was placed by Mrs. Bushal. The contact in New York City was effected at 0900 hours on 2 November 1956 and lasted until approximately 1300 hours.

2. AECAMHISTA 4 produced a letter ostensibly written in the Byelorussian SSR by an individual named VASIL LISOGORSKI in June 1956. The original of the letter was shown to the case officer. The post mark indicated that it had been mailed from Reykjavik, Iceland. The letter was addressed to the Byelorussian National Council representatives in Argentina (Asociacion Bielarus en la Argentina, Call Coronal Sayes, 2678 Valentin Alsheva Place, Buenos Aires). The letter was received in Argentina sometime between the 17th and 22nd of September 1956. Both stamps were missing and no censor cachets appeared on the envelope. The letter was written in two parts. The first addressed to the Association in Argentina (to Mr. Alsheva, whom the writer mistook to be the name of an individual rather than part of the address). This letter, written in a well-educated hand, stated the following:

My Dear Mr. Alsheva:

"I have heard your address from an Argentinian returnee. I am writing to you with the special request, even though we are unacquainted. I would be in your debt if you would send this letter to Antocs ADAMOVICH. In the case he is not available, please forward it to Stanislaw STANKIEWICZ. I am sorry that I do not know their address, and I have no way of learning it."

The letter contained the phrase "Byelorussia lives," and was signed with the initials V.L.

Comments:

This letter of transferral was received in Argentina and forwarded to ADAMOVICH in the U.S. As far as can be determined, only 4 people know of its existence. It should be noted that the reference to Mr. Alsheva indicates that the writer has assumed that such a person is a member of the Byelorussian organization. The Argentinian returnee referred to in the letter is unknown to AECAMHISTA 4. However, he is of the opinion that it is one of the communist repatriates and the information received by V.L. must have been done so in casual conversation.

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DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE/METHOD/EXEMPTION 3B2E
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2005

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The attached letter for ADAMOVICH or STANKIEWICZ was written in the same hand that wrote the covering transferral letter. The address at the conclusion of the second letter (or the insert) was written by a second party. It stated:

"Good day Friend Antocs. After a long delay, I am writing you a letter. When you were in the third course as a senior in the pedagogical technical institute, you were known as Shvits. Then I was honorably known as Anstriak. I am certain that you will remember me. News has come to me that you and others are not dead. From a recent Byelorussian returnee I learned that you are engaged in work which we once did together. It was good to hear that you have your own newspaper." (Reference is made to *Batkovyina*, an ABQUOR PP sponsored activity.) "This man informed me that in Argentina you have an organization and gave the address to me. With this good luck I am writing this letter. I am very glad that you and STANKIEWICZ, KUSHAL, and others are working and are having some success. In our publications, they do not mention you as if you did not exist. It is unfortunate that you have insufficient information about the fatherland and we (hear) nothing about you. There have been some incidents against the regime which have helped us spiritually. Would it not be better to unite our goals? It is easier for you to answer this question. Without your aid, it would be difficult to believe. Not so long ago news appeared that Vladimir Dobovik will come to Minsk. Many others already have returned. About myself, I can only say in a few words. I live in Byelorussia and I work. I am sending this letter through a hand-carry method. When you receive it, send me an answer to my good friend (whose address will be written at the end of the letter). You know why this must be. Forward my sincerest greetings to your parents. They must certainly remember me. I was at the place where your house was; now there is nothing but tall grass. Give my sincerest greetings to Vladimir Duditsky, Janka and Stanislaw Stankiewicz, Eugene Kipela, Gregory Zibili, Janka Mitiker, Natalia and Frantisek, Kushal, Boris Ragula, Hrinko and others who remember me."

(This letter was signed "Byelorussia Lives" Vasil Lisogorski, June 1956.)

Return address for the contact in Latvia is as follows:

Latviseya
SSR
Rishakiy r-a
C/C Olainye
TZ "OLAINYE"
Dom No. 10
Fedorakevich, Leonid

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3. The immediate reaction of the case officer was that this letter had all the aspects of an SIS provocation. This was told to ARMANDISIA h, who admitted that the possibility did exist and stated that this was the first thought that had occurred to him. He further stated that ANDWICH, who was the recipient of the letter, was rather laazy about answering it since, he noted, the U.S. "Intelligence" would possibly feel that he were engaged in a clandestine activity by the mere fact that he was corresponding with someone in the Soviet Union. ARMANDISIA h allayed ANDWICH's fears and an answer will be written in an innocuous vein to verify the existence of the channel for future communications.

4. ARMANDISIA h stated that the sender of the letter is well known to STAMKISHIN and ANDWICH. They had been students and were engaged in anti-bolshevik work in 1929. The name "Angtrial" and "Soviet" were pseudonyms. He did state that the writer could have been forced by the Soviets to write the letter since it is known that the writer was incarcerated for a period of time in the "Bast." The exact location of the incarceration is not known. This was the only factor in favor of SIS control. To offset the possibility of SIS control, ARMANDISIA h listed the following reasons why he thought the letter was clean:

a. The names mentioned in the letter included persons who have been dead for some time. Shells was a captain in General Huebner's Pyelawestian Army during World War II and was shot by the Soviets.

b. Eugene Joachim has been made a Colonel in the BGR under Ogrensky. ARMANDISIA h, who, it must be said is opposed to the BGR, ridiculed the selection of Joachim since the latter had had no military service whatsoever. Anyone aware of Pyelawestian politics would associate the name with BGR and expect a favorable reaction.

c. ANDWICH immediately recognized the writer of the letter as his former friend of college days who had been caught in Rhine during the German evacuation during World War II. In 1929 he had engaged in the students' opposition to the Bolshevism.

d. If the man had been under control, the use of pseudonyms would not be wise since the possibility existed that the names would have been forgotten.

5. ARMANDISIA h was asked to give his version of how the letter may have been transmitted to South America. He gave two possible methods:

a. The letter written by V.L. could have been hand-carried by the writer to a friend in Latvia and then given to a sailor for mailing outside the Soviet Union, or

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b. The writer could have given the letter to a friend in Miami who was travelling to Eliza. This man could have utilized a letter drop of his friend, who then could have given it to a sailor. The identity of the sailor and the return address is unknown to ALBERTSON. A check will be made by the case officer to verify whether or not any Soviet ships pulled into the harbor at Bayreuth, Iceland, during the time that this letter was mailed.

6. ALBERTSON was asked to indicate how many persons knew about the letter's existence. According to him, ALBERTSON is the letter was received by FRU Barlett, who was in Argentina as a representative of the Pyrenean Association. This man now resides in New York City. The letter was given to ALBERTSON, who in turn asked Mrs. Rosal what he should do with it. She counseled that ALBERTSON should be made knowledgeable of its existence, and that he should handle any future correspondence because of its sensitive character. The answering letter will be sent from Argentina utilizing the return address of the Pyrenean Association in that country. The original of the letter and the answer will be given to the underlined for copying immediately after it has been answered.

7. ALBERTSON has completed [] as his check for the PA slot in the Pyrenean hot war plans. He has already sent [] out on a preliminary scouting trip through Detroit, Chicago, and Cleveland. [] is utilizing HSB organizational cover and will not make any recruitment approaches. ALBERTSON is stated that [] is available for training immediately. He reversed his opinion at a later meeting.

8. Regarding a trip to Argentina under the sponsorship of the American Committee, ALBERTSON said that the Committee had reversed the previous positive position and would not be able to give an answer until after the elections. It is recommended by the underlined that SA/DOS underwrite the expense for the trip.

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